"giving away the keys to the starship", because | pace | open everything | capability | collaboration | potential of connections |

These are the slides I used for a UTS Shapeshifters event on Creative Futures:

I talked about the future of academic libraries and how we have to give up at least some of the control we insist on today. Sometimes I think we cling to control as a way of defending against inevitable change. The pace of change, particularly in digital technologies is too fast for everything to be so closely and centrally controlled and if we continue to do this we risk stifling innovation. In giving up some control we are cognisant of the demand for everything to be open these days, e.g.: research; repositories; software architecture; and access to knowledge and learning resources. That openness and the capability of those within university communities leads to collaboration in very creative environments and the potential of those connections is endless.



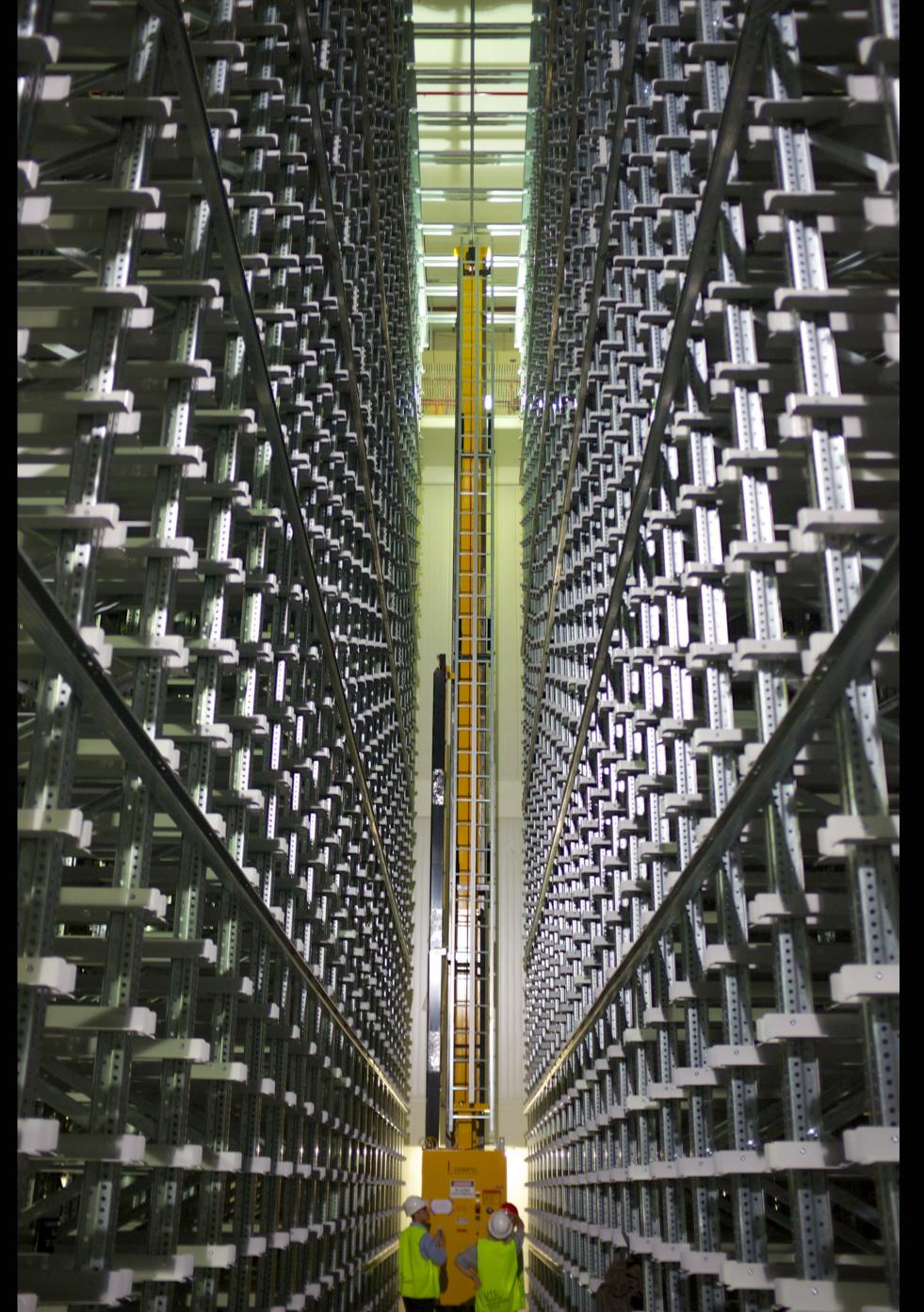
INTELLECTUAL SOCIAL R CULTURAL

Our vision for the future UTS Library hasn't really changed, although I am now also saying that we should become the intellectual, cultural and social heart of the new UTS campus. (Borrowing from Hunt Library!)



DELIGHT SURPRISE ENGAGEMENT SERENDIPITY CURIOSITY

And to fulfil that vision we need to keep these things in mind: delighting, surprising and engaging with our community; providing serendipitous discovery of knowledge and culture; and encouraging curiosity (the foundation of learning).



Our Library Retrieval System

The future library will no longer be just about print, text and access to information.

This is an in progress short of just one of six aisles in our LRS as it was being installed in late November 2013. The system is capable of storing around 1 million print items and allows for the library itself to be no longer primarily a book storage facility. Printed items can easily and quickly be retrieved from this system for reading and loans, but they are no longer stored in prime real estate within the library itself. This offers us more space for more students and to incorporate new technology platforms that everyone is now using to share knowledge and to practice their learning.

LIBRARIES | must embrace new technologies | about creating not collecting | preserve & shape public knowledge | •

To stay relevant in the future, libraries must embrace new digital technologies, particularly those about the creation of content in forms well beyond simple text. Libraries will be measured more by what they create and help others to create, not so much what they collect, but they still will maintain a role in preserving and shaping public knowledge, particularly that of their home community.

DAB: animation, exhibitions, textiles

FASS: multimedia, stories, websites

LAW: film, debates, moots

BUSINESS: marketing, events, film

HEALTH: models, simulation, data vis

SCIENCE: data vis, sketches, models

FEIT: games, programs, robots

These are just my examples of the different kinds of work that students are creating in all faculties. I am sure that the implementation of our new Creative Intelligence degrees will have further impact. It is not an exhaustive listing.

The Library spaces and technologies need to reflect and support the creation of these new forms of student work and knowledge. It also needs to encourage the connection, peer-to-peer support and collaboration across the different forms of expertise in all of these areas that exists within our faculties and schools.



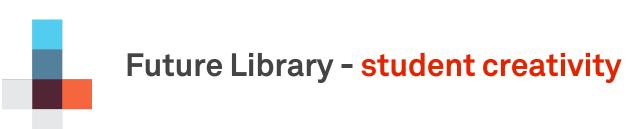
Future Library - student creativity





UTS DAB Visual Communications student works on display in the Library

The work on the left is from under-grad students and was displayed in late 2013. On the right is work acquired from a graduate exhibition in 2011. It is now part of our Special Collections and the designer now works for us - Tom Fethers. He has also designed our new visual identity - the small colourful L that appears on all slides and now forms our way finding signage.





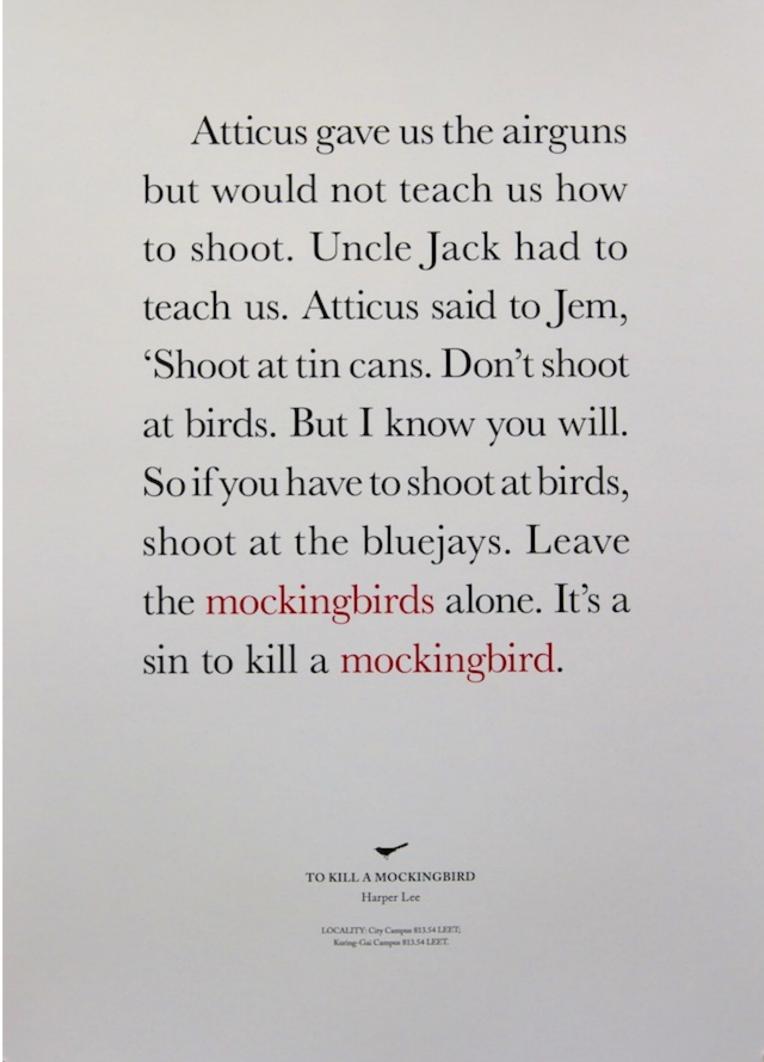
UTS DAB 2nd year Bachelor of Animation students: "Praxis Makes Perfect" at Vivid 2013

An example of the kind of new media work that students are creating and being assessed on. Read more here:

http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/blog/university-librarian/2013/06/praxis-makes-perfect







Avian Titled Literature, UTS Library By UTS researchers Drs Kate Sweetapple & Zoë Sadokierski

This is the work of two design researchers that is currently on display in the UTS Blake Library. It speaks for itself in terms of aesthetics and curiosity. We are privileged to have such brilliant collaborators in URS who are prepared to share their work with us.



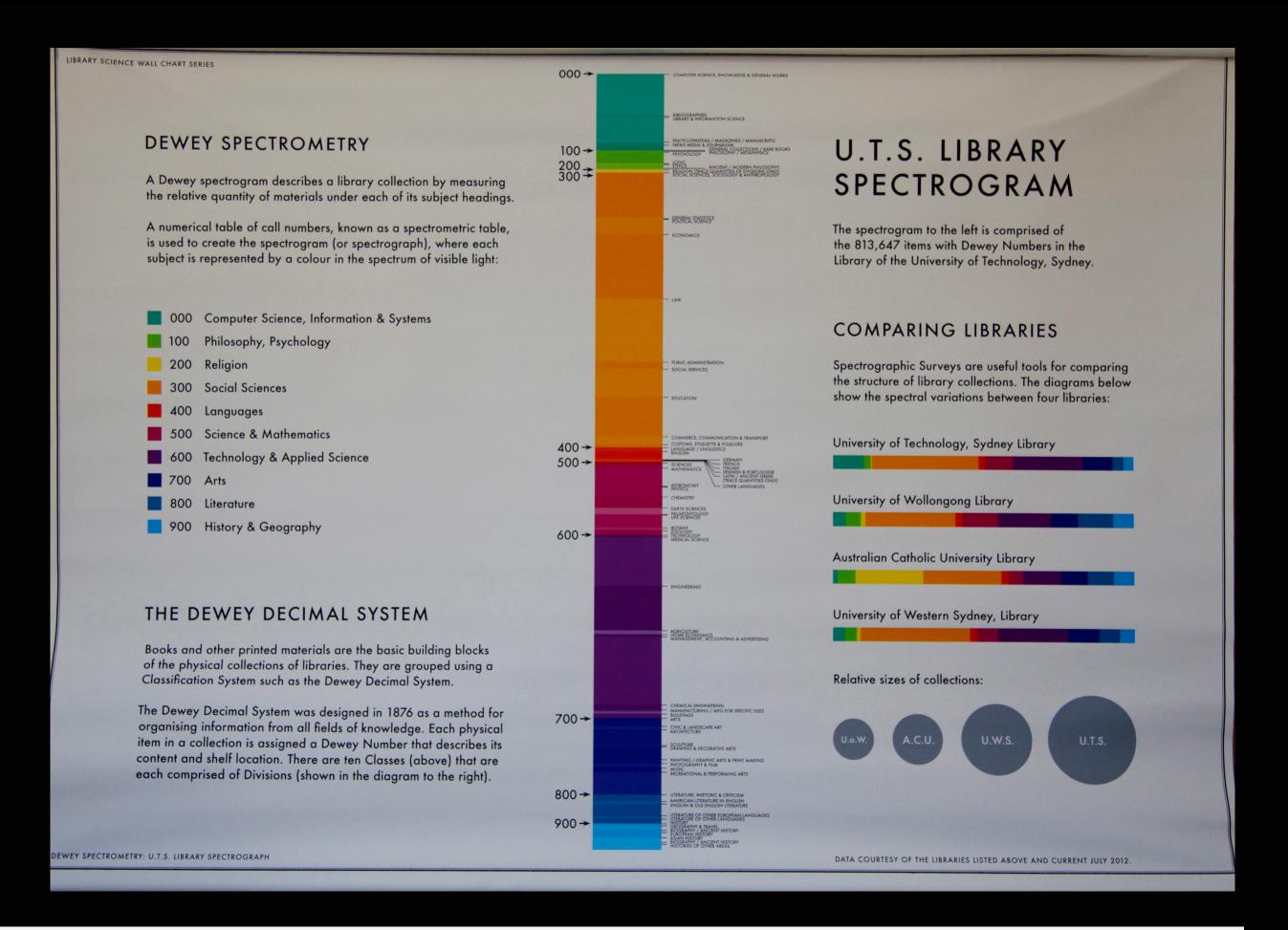


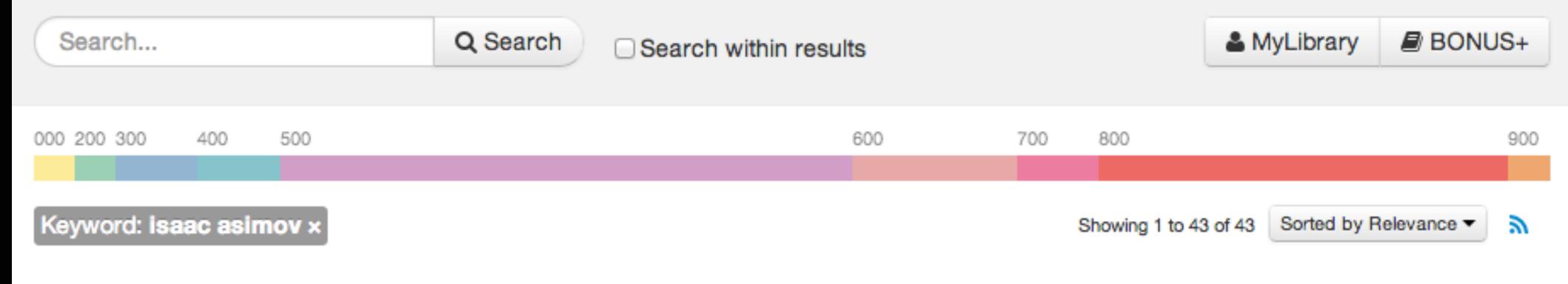
UTS Alumnus Adam Goodrum's award winning Stitch Chair

Adam is just a further example of the creative talent within the UTS community whose work and creative output can be used and showcased in the Library itself.



Artist-in-Residence Chris Gaul 2012





We've now had two Artists in Residence over 2012 and 2013. They've both been very beneficial programs with Chris Gaul's work (this slide) exploring the different nature of Discovery (as opposed to Search) in Libraries and Chris Caines (next slide) looking at the nature of the "book" by exploring the possibilities found today in mashing together transmedia to fully take advantage of new digital capabilities.

For more, see:

http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/blog/university-librarian/2013/04/artist-residence-update

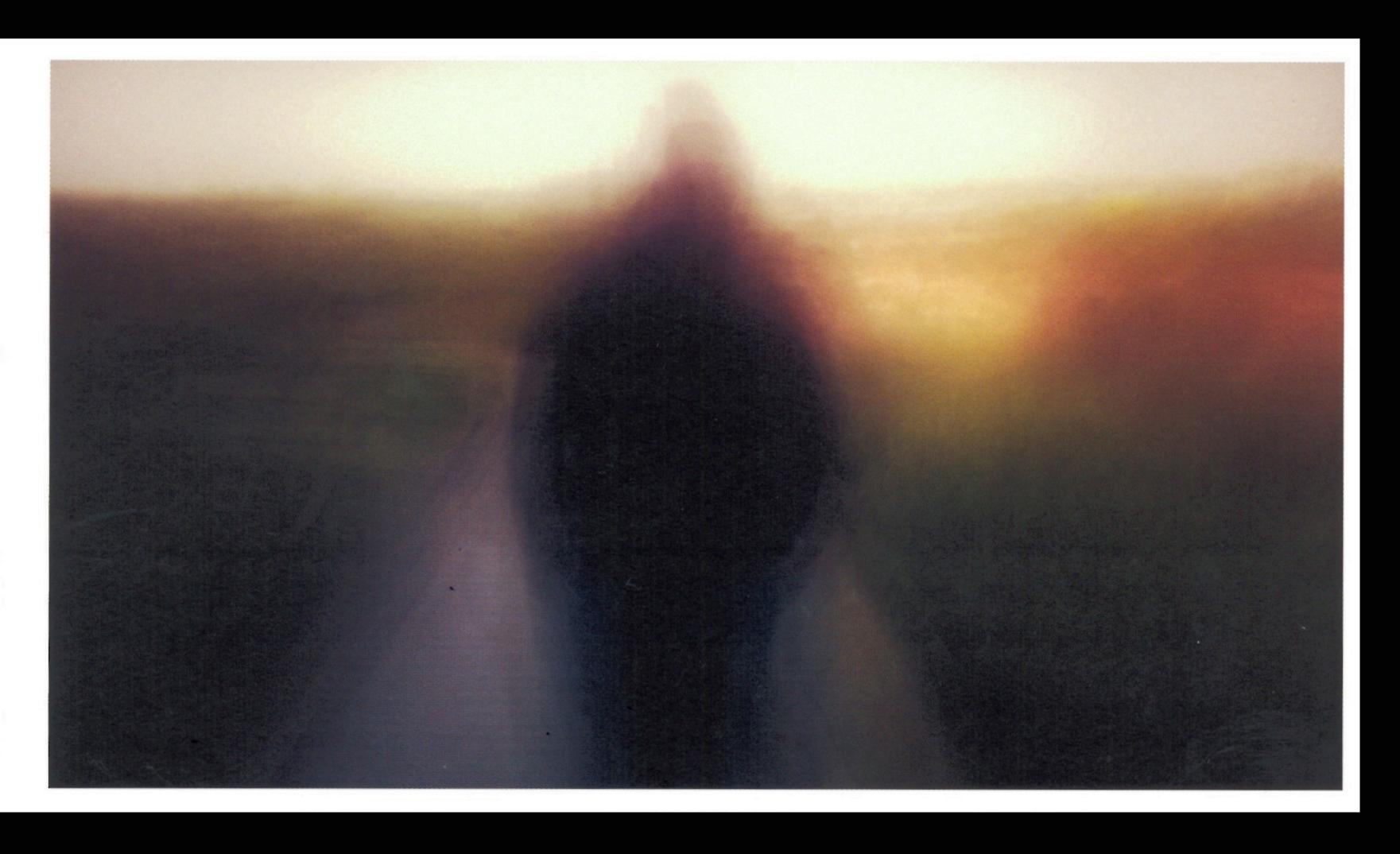


DAB LAB Research Gallery

THE LIBRARY BOOK

CHRIS CAINES & ZOË SADOKIERSKI

27 NOV 2013 – 31 JAN 2014 *OPENING*: WED 11 DEC 6–8PM





SPACES SERVICES ORGANISATION TECHNOLOGIES

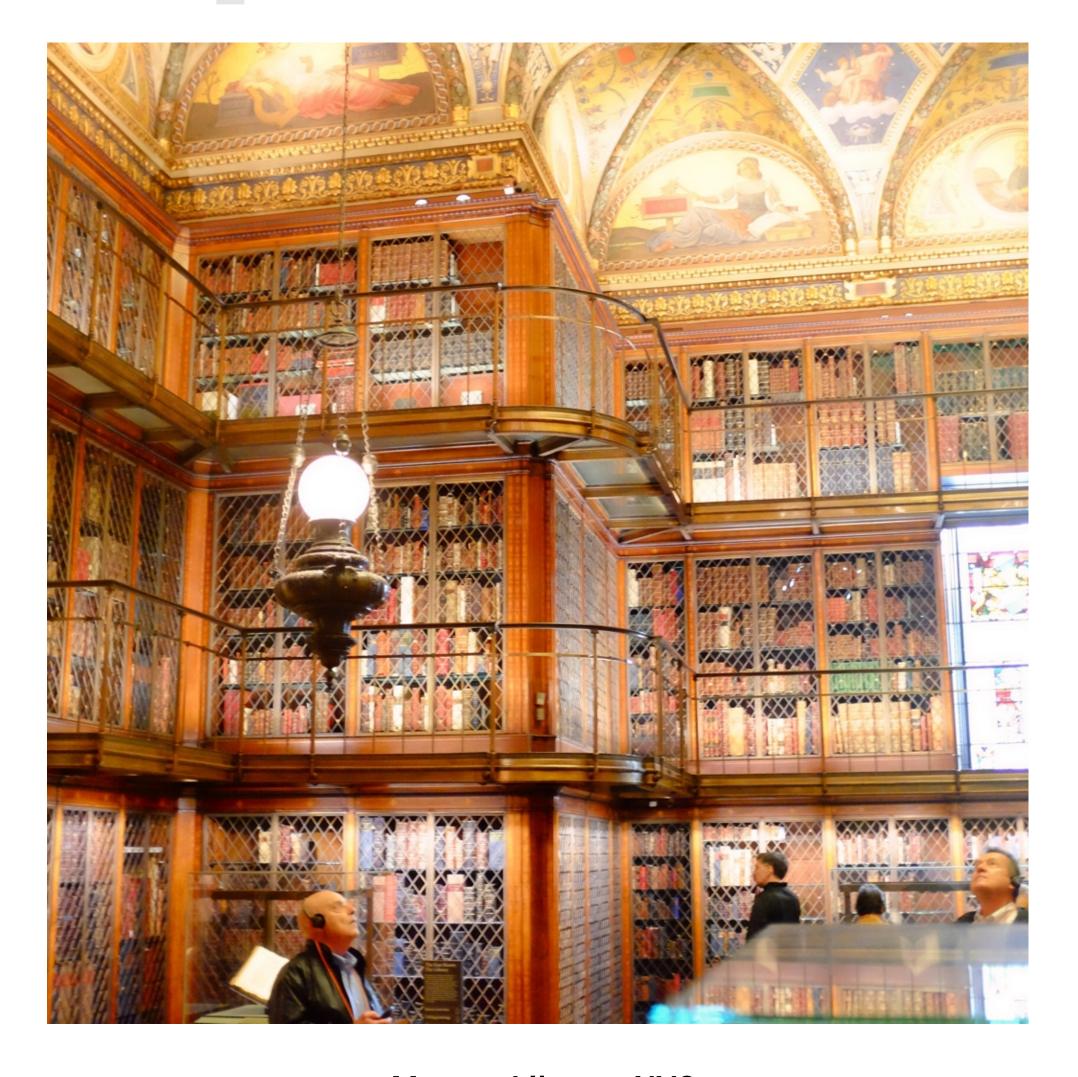
These four design challenges are deeply linked and cannot be dealt with in isolation of each other. All must be considered and progressed if we are to stay relevant to the future of our community and support its dynamic role in learning and research. Obviously we must be cognisant of UTS future directions and priorities and capable of responding to them.



INTERIORS ARCHITECTURE FURITURE

Our future library will be the last major facility of a one billion dollar campus redevelopment project. I'd like to think that we could use it as a showcase for UTS design talent because I know we have in-house capabilities to design at least some of the architecture, interior spaces and furniture that the library will need.





Morgan Library, NYC

FROM | book storage | many rules | silence | access | passive | print | collections | conservative | reactive | fixed |

We want to move from this old model for libraries where the collections were precious and access was limited. Morgan Library is beautiful to visit, but essentially we are viewing the book equivalent of battery hens.





TO: people | few rules | inspiration | creation | multimedia | active | engaged | agile | collaboration | new services

James B. Hunt Library, NCSU

We see libraries becoming more for and about the people who use them. Offering new services and meeting new demands.

Above is one of my slides from a visit to Hunt Library, NCSU in October 2013. You can see more images on my Flickr set here: http://www.flickr.com/photos/malbooth/sets/72157636305354703/

One thing seems clear to me: the library must be designed to cope with the rapid pace of technological change that we cannot even guess at for more than 3-5 years. Our spaces must be adaptable for future purposes and they should be "wired" for change too. Although it is unlikely that the building itself can expand, some internal scalability would be beneficial and what that means is the ability to scale up some areas, whilst scaling back on others.



Future Library - quiet reading room



James B. Hunt Library, NCSU

I loved this reading room at Hunt Library. It is scholarly, yet open and welcoming. The fit out provides inspiration and encourages what is to be done in that space: studying. It seats 125 and Aaron Moser of Thomas Moser designed these "Hunt Chairs" for this space. Small group study rooms look down on this room from above.



Sir Paul Reeves Building, AUT



Another type of collaborative space in New Zealand, set up for BYOD. It opened in 2013 and has already proved very popular with students.



James B. Hunt Library, NCSU

Hunt Library has many reading lounges and all are popular. This one really gives a feeling of space and is an important part of the entrance to the Library itself.

TECHNOLOGIES | data visualisation | animation | video & sound | creative maker spaces | gaming |

It is very interesting to consider the kinds of technologies that must now be included or at least seriously considered for 21st century academic libraries.

I think the bench mark has now been set way out in front of just about everyone else at the Hunt Library, NCSU:

http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2013/09/buildings/lbd/tomorrow-visualized-library-by-design/

It is clear that the Hunt Library cleverly uses the technologies listed above.

DATA VISUALISATION is now being used in our arts, social sciences, design, science, IT and health schools. I believe some access to that should be provided in libraries to provide access to anyone on campus who wants to experiment, observe the efforts of others or learn how to use it.

ANIMATION similarly is now being used and taught in many faculties. We could showcase it centrally in the Library and help to connect those practicing this art in the many different areas.

VIDEO & SOUND production may soon become the preferred medium for knowledge dissemination in the future. Even if not, they will certainly be a major platform for future scholars and the early steps are already being taken (some at UTS). First year students come to us already using YouTube as their search engine of preference. They consume all kinds of knowledge and entertainment through it and many are skilled at producing content for it. I believe that libraries should now be providing spaces for anyone on campus who is producing, mixing, editing or showcasing their video or audio content.

CREATIVE MAKER SPACES - Hunt Library provides such spaces and includes technologies such as 3D printers and advanced laser cutting equipment so that students and staff can use them centrally.

I am heading to Hunt in early October 2013 for two conferences and workshops on technologies and spatial design. I bet that I will learn much there and have more to add on my return. Technologies like these in our future library become even more important when you consider our move into the Creative Intelligence area from 2013 onward.









James B. Hunt Library, NCSU

Here we see a virtual data lab that can be used for virtual modelling (above) and on the lower level their Gaming lab (left) and an example of the maker-bots they use in their maker-space to allow for 3D modelling.



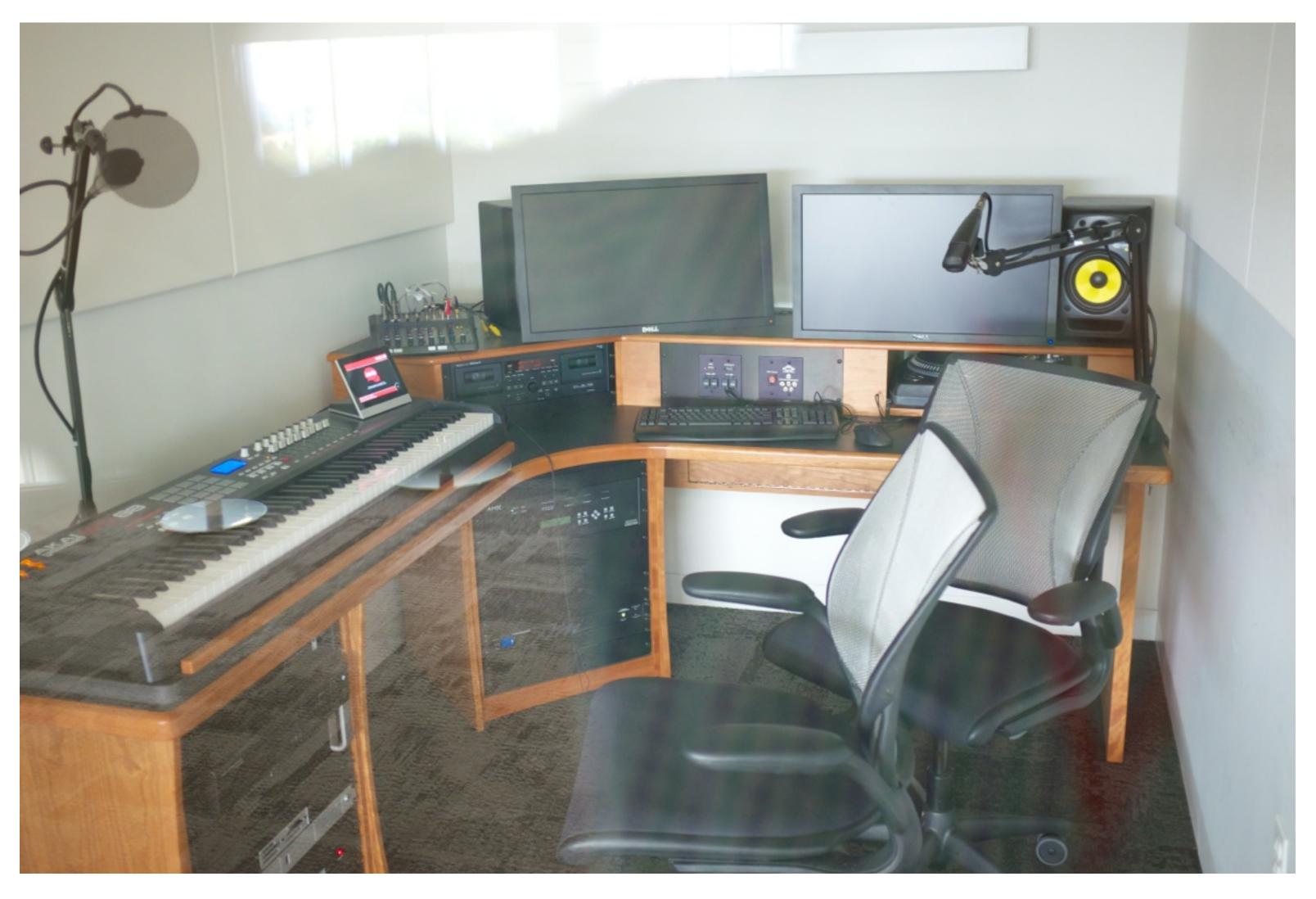


James B. Hunt Library, NCSU

This isn't really an animation theatre or wall but it is a good example of what an open theatre/wall would look like.

It is actually the multi-screen iPearl immersion theatre at Hunt Library and here it is showing Instagram images harvested from everyone who has posted snaps of Hunt on Instagram.

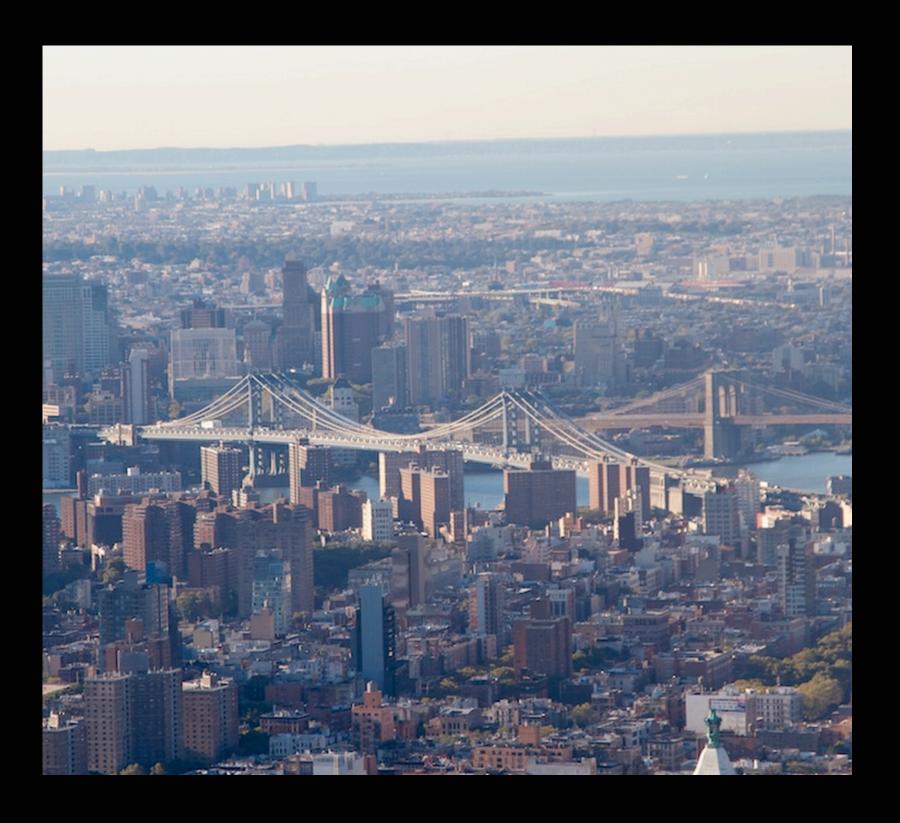




James B. Hunt Library, NCSU

Hunt Library has several smaller rooms allowing for multi-media production, mixing and editing. They also have video conferencing facilities.





services data engaged research impact connecting personalised UX->UI creative online edu curated mobile blended 24/5

Bridges connecting Manhattan to Brooklyn and Queens - there are many and a tunnel (at least one that I know of). Libraries are really bridges to knowledge, culture and other people, much more so than "destinations". The words above reflect what we see as our key services in the future. They are based on what we know to be continuing requirements for university libraries and many are emerging as we progress our deliberations.

We are working with service designers to help us design these services properly, just as they are doing now with several banks, Qantas, and some telcos.

Data is a growing requirement for UTS in terms of Research, Learning Analytics and Business Intelligence. Our new systems need to be able to support new requirements and we need to provide new services about data management and curation.

Libraries must be engaged with all elements of the university and we've found that the more engaged we are, the more benefits there are coming back to assist us. It is a major priority for us to stay up to date with what is being taught and researched and to keep our services relevant Research impact is a growing requirement for libraries in assisting our researchers to demonstrate their worth. We are trying to do a lot more in this area already.

We are also trying to connect people across the campus with each other and with knowledge resources and culture when relevant. It requires a more active and willing mindset, but is very rewarding in the long run.

I think we will need to constantly perform user experience (UX) research and design on both our online and physical services in the future. I'd do it right now if I could convert resources quickly. The results of that research into our users' behaviour should be translated into constantly improved services and user interfaces (UI).

I've presented elsewhere about how we have tried to be more creative at all levels in developing our services to date. That must continue. See also http://www.slideshare.net/malbooth/creativity-academic-libraries

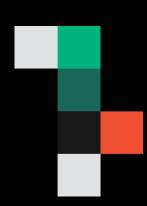
Developments in online education has been a major focus of conversation in 2012. The library will need to support new strategic directions once these are decided in UTS in 2013. I think the most likely outcome is some form of extended blended learning program, but in most cases we are already "flipped" and providing a lot of our resources and most support services online. See also http://informationonline2013.wordpress.com/2012/11/14/the-implications-for-libraries-of-recent-global-trends-in-open-online-education-part-2/





James B. Hunt Library, NCSU

Hunt Library has only this service point in a library that provides seats for 1750 students. (They have another library at D.H. Hill.)



"Be curious. Read widely.
Try new things. I think a
lot of what people call
intelligence boils down to
curiosity."

Aaron Swartz, 1986-2013

mal.booth@uts.edu.au @malbooth

